

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-20. (canceled)

Claim 21 (new): A process for providing a human or animal with at least two active substances, comprising:

providing a polysaccharide in the form of a plurality of granular particles, including a first active substance incorporated into a first granular particle and a second active substance incorporated into a second granular particle, wherein the first and second granular particles are functionally separated from one another and the active substances thereof do not mix or interact with one another; and

introducing the polysaccharide into a metabolism of a human or animal.

Claim 22 (new): The process of Claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide comprises at least one polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of galactomannans and glucomannans.

Claim 23 (new): The process of Claim 21, wherein the active substances are selected from the group consisting of vitamins, minerals, trace elements, plant ingredients, amino acids, enzymes, and coenzymes.

Claim 24 (new): The process of Claim 21, wherein said providing step comprises:

contacting the active substance with water;  
mixing with the polysaccharide to form a gel;  
gently drying the gel to form a cake;  
comminuting the cake to form granular particles; and  
sieving the granular particles to a desired particle size.

Claim 25 (new): The process of Claim 21, wherein the granular particles each comprise a plurality of polysaccharide molecules forming a lattice structure having interstices, and the active substances are bound within the interstices of the lattice structure by coordinate bonds.

Claim 26 (new): The process of Claim 25, wherein in said introducing step, the polysaccharide molecules move with respect to one another upon penetration of fluid into the interstices of the lattice structure.

Claim 27 (new): The process of Claim 26, wherein in said introducing step, portions of the lattice structure are removed layer by layer upon penetration of fluid into the interstices of the lattice structure thereby resulting in a gradual release of the active substances.

Claim 28 (new): The process of Claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide molecules are surrounded by an H<sub>2</sub>O envelope.

Claim 29 (new): The process of Claim 21, wherein said providing step further comprises:  
providing a polysaccharide;  
incorporating a solution containing the first active substance into the polysaccharide until the first active substance has been fully incorporated; and  
incorporating a solution containing the second active substance into the polysaccharide.